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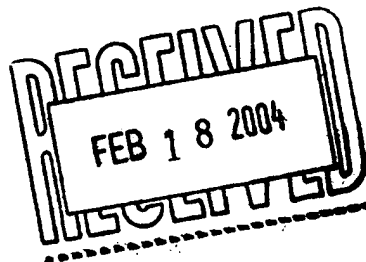
2881 \$AF  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2881

PATENT  
DOCKET NO.: 29284/541

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : Yasuhiko NARA et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 09/832,220  
FILED : April 11, 2001  
FOR : INSPECTION METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM FOR CIRCUIT  
PATTERN  
ART UNIT : 2881  
EXAMINER : Jack I. Berman

MAIL STOP AF  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



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**AMENDMENT**

SIR:

In response to the Final Rejection dated September 3, 2003, the period for response having been extended herein to February 3, 2004 by payment of the requisite fee of \$420.00 for a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered to place this application in condition for allowance or better form for appeal:

02/05/2004 EFLORES 00000154 110600 09832220

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